

CLAIMS

1. A combination of a first container and a second container
5 to form a dispensing unit, which first and second containers
each have a reservoir for a liquid substance and a pump, which
is secured to the reservoir, can be actuated by hand and has a
dispensing opening and a pump-actuating button for dispensing
substance from the reservoir, which combination also comprises
10 coupling means for coupling together the first and second
containers in a position next to one another, characterized in
that the coupling means comprise:
one or more first coupling members, which are each arranged on
the first container, and
15 one or more second coupling means, which are each arranged on
the second container and which can each be directly coupled to
an associated first coupling member on the first container.
2. Combination according to claim 1, in which a first coupling
20 member and an associated second coupling member are each
arranged fixedly on the assembly of reservoir and pump of the
associated container in order to create a stable coupling
between the assemblies of reservoir and pump of the two
containers.
- 25 3. Combination according to claim 1 or 2, in which a first
coupling member and an associated second coupling member are
each arranged fixedly on the pump-actuating button of the
associated container in order to create a stable coupling
30 between the pump-actuating buttons of the two containers.
4. Combination according to one or more of the preceding
claims, in which associated first and second coupling members
are designed to form an optionally releasable click-fit
35 connection to one another.
5. Combination according to claim 4, characterized in that the
click-fit connection is an optionally releasable sliding click-
fit connection.

6. Combination according to one or more of the preceding claims, in which each reservoir has an opening at the top side, in which the pump is secured by means of a securing collar, and
5 in which a first coupling member and associated second coupling member are arranged on the securing collar of the first container and the second container, respectively.

7. Combination according to one or more of the preceding
10 claims, in which a pair of first and second coupling members is respectively arranged on the assembly of reservoir and pump of the first and second containers, respectively, in which the coupling members of each pair are complementary with respect to one another and in which the pairs of coupling members are
15 identical to one another.

8. Combination according to claims 6 and 7, in which the securing collars of the first and second containers are identical.
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9. Combination according to one or more of the preceding claims, in which the pump of each container has a dispensing passage which extends through the pump-actuating button.

25 10. Combination according to claim 9, in which the pump-actuating buttons of the first and second containers each have a bearing surface for the other pump-actuating button, and in which the dispensing passage of each pump-actuating button has a dispensing mouth in the vicinity of the bearing surface, so that
30 in the coupled position the dispensing mouths lie adjacent to one another.

11. Combination according to one or more of the preceding claims, in which the first and second coupling members are
35 designed to form a coupling which can no longer be released by a user.

12. Combination according to claims 2 and 3, in which the first and second coupling members are designed to hold the first and

second containers at an oblique angle with respect to one another, with the pump-actuating buttons together, and then to couple the containers first of all by means of the coupling members associated with their pump-actuating buttons, and then to pivot the first and second containers towards one another about a hinge which is produced by the coupling members of the pump-actuating buttons, in such a manner that the coupling members associated with the assembly of reservoir and pump of each of the containers are coupled to one another.

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13. Dispensing unit comprising the combination of a first container and a second container coupled to it according to one or more of the preceding claims.

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14. Dispensing unit according to claim 13, which also comprises a reservoir holder which is designed to at least partially hold the reservoir of the first container and the reservoir of the second container.

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15. Dispensing unit according to claim 14, in which the separate reservoirs can be fixed in the reservoir holder by means of a click-fit connection between the reservoir holder and the respective containers.

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16. Dispensing unit according to one or more of claims 13 - 15 in which the dispensing passage in the first container at least partially merges with the dispensing passage in the second container, and in which the dispensing passages have a common dispensing mouth.

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17. Combination or dispensing unit according to one or more of the preceding claims, in which there is a removable blocking element for blocking at least one of the pump-actuating buttons of the first or second container.

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18. Combination or dispensing unit according to claim 17, in which a blocking element which can be removed, for example can be broken off, is formed integrally on each securing collar.

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19. Combination or dispensing unit according to claim 17 or 18,
in which the blocking element is a cylindrical clamping element
which is substantially U-shaped in cross section and which, when
the actuating button is in its highest position, can be clamped
5 around a narrower section of the actuating button.

20. Container for a liquid substance which is clearly intended
for a combination or dispensing unit according to one or more of
the preceding claims.